

News Release

OFFICE OF ATTORNEY GENERAL ALAN WILSON STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

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Contact: J. Mark Powell

(803) 734-3670 mpowell@scag.gov

Lexington Man Arrested for Sexual Exploitation of Child

(**COLUMBIA, S.C.**) South Carolina Attorney General Alan Wilson announced the arrest of Garey Emil Cason, Jr. (DOB: 8/18/1976), of Lexington, S.C., on two (2) charges related to the sexual exploitation of a child. The Lexington County Sheriff's Office, a member of the Internet Crimes Against Children (ICAC) Task Force, made the arrest. The Tallahassee (Florida) Police Department assisted in the arrest.

Last month, Cason took sexually explicit photographs of a minor and uploaded them to his Facebook account. The photographs were spotted on September 26, 2014, and the Lexington County Sherriff's Office was notified. The victim later described the incident during an interview with authorities. Cason fled to Florida, and a warrant was obtained for his arrest. Cason voluntarily turned himself in to the Tallahassee Police Department on October 18, 2014. He was held in the Leon County Detention Center and waived extradition to Lexington County, South Carolina.

Cason was charged with one (1) count of Sexual Exploitation of a Minor, first degree, (§16-15-395), a felony offense punishable by up to twenty (20) years imprisonment, and one (1) count of Sexual Exploitation of a Minor second degree (§16-15-405), a felony offense punishable by up to ten (10) years imprisonment.

The case will be prosecuted by the Attorney General's Office.

Attorney General Wilson stressed all defendants are presumed innocent unless and until they are proven guilty in a court of law.